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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 4208.0083

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Masahiro YAMAMOTO ) Group Art Unit: 2623  
)  
Application No.: 09/648,372 ) Examiner: (Unassigned)  
)  
Filed: August 25, 2000 )  
)  
For: PATTERN INSPECTION )  
APPARATUS, PATTERN )  
INSPECTION METHOD, AND )  
RECORDING MEDIUM )  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
MAY 21 2003  
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

English abstracts of the Japanese documents are enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the Japanese documents, an English language version of an Official Action dated February 21, 2003, from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed. Please note, that Reference 3 in the

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Office Action incorrectly identifies Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. Hei as 10-207917. The correct No. is 10-307917.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 19, 2003

By:   
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